POLICE GRANTS

DESCRIPTION

The Chesterfield Police Department has been successful in obtaining several major grants through the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Office and through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

The greatest portion of grant activity exists through the federal Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing/Universal Hiring Programs (COPS/UHP) that have been phased in over the past eight years in several separate grant awards. The objective of this federal program is to provide communities with funds to hire more police officers to allow greater police presence and visibility in the communities. The last of COPS grants will end June 30, 2003.

The Police Department has also received Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) funding over the past several years. The LLEBG is a formula program based on a local government's proportion of Universal Crime Reporting Part I violent crimes over the most recent three calendar years. Funds for these grants must be spent in accordance with specific law enforcement initiatives. Awards are granted annually and require a county match, but do not commit ongoing funding from the county.

The last of these funds was made available to the county in September 2002.

In August 2002 the Police Department was awarded funds by the Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Office (COPS) for mobile data technology. These funds will be used for one-time purchase of equipment. The local match is being provided by various sources in the county. There are no positions involved with this grant.

It is expected that DCJS will continue to provide V-STOP program funding in FY2004 for the department's Domestic Violence Coordinator. This position is one of a multidisciplinary team in Chesterfield County that coordinates and enhances the criminal justice response to domestic violence in the county.

The DCJS is also expected to continue funding one School Resource Officer (SRO) position at Chesterfield Community High School. This SRO position along with 21 county-funded SROs and two sergeants provide for police presence in the county's middle and high schools to enhance a safe and secure learning environment for students and faculty. Grant funding of the SRO at Turning Point Academy will end June 30, 2003.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

	FY2002 Actual	FY2003 Adopted	FY2004 Biennial Planned	FY2004 Adopted	Change FY2003 to FY2004	FY2005 Projected	FY2006 Projected	FY2007 Projected
Personnel	$322,860	$377,900	$138,600	$95,100	-74.8%	$95,100	$95,100	$95,100
Operating	30,390	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0
Capital	42,509	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0
Total	$395,759	$377,900	$138,600	$95,100	-74.8%	$95,100	$95,100	$95,100
Revenue	336,944	217,900	138,600	83,500	-61.7%	83,500	83,500	83,500
Net Cost	$58,816	$160,000	$0	$11,600	-92.8%	$11,600	$11,600	$11,600
FT Pos.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

POLICE GRANTS

BUDGET ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

Each grant awarded to the Police Department requires that certain conditions be met. One of the requirements of the COPS/UHP grants is that the local match gradually increase over the life of the grant. Also, upon expiration of the grant, the positions must be retained and the full cost absorbed by the department. To date, 69 police officer positions hired through COPS/UHP have been fully absorbed within the Police Department's operating budget through additions to its budget from the county. Six remaining officer positions are still partially funded by the last COPS/UHP grant that will expire June 30, 2003. In FY2004 the local funding requirement for these positions increased by $162,900. Operating and capital costs for positions hired under the COPS/UHP program continue to be absorbed by the Police Department. At this time there is a possibility that the county will receive additional COPS grant funding and it is anticipated that the required match would be identified from within the Police Department budget. Due to the uncertainty of this funding

source however, it has not been included in the FY2004 budget.

DCJS V-STOP grant funding for the Domestic Violence Coordinator was reduced by 20% beginning January 1, 2002. The county has funded the balance of personnel costs to ensure continuation of the V-STOP program in the department. The Police Department also funds operating and capital costs for this position. Funding to continue this grant at the FY2003 level is included in the FY2004 budget in the amount of $46,600 and includes an $11,600 local match from the general fund.

In FY2004 the county anticipates DCJS to fund only the School Resource Officer (SRO) at the Community High School. Funding is included in the FY2004 in the amount of $48,500. The School Board will provide funding for the local match for this position and some additional operating costs in the amount of $21,000.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

As grant funding for positions continues to decline, the Police Department will have to absorb the additional costs to retain these positions and the services they provide.

The existing DCJS grants present a significant challenge to the Police Department as state funding is renewable from year to year. As funding from the state becomes increasingly uncertain over the next several years, the department will have to prepare to absorb additional costs in order to continue the

important services provided by the V-STOP and SRO programs.

The Police Department will continue to actively pursue grant funding in future years as opportunities and programs are presented through various granting organizations. Each grant pursued will be individually evaluated for its expected benefit to the community and to ensure that its fiscal impact on county funds is feasible.